Committee, which is chaired by the Minister of Environment and Forests. The meeting of the Indian Board for Wildlife was held on 13-3-1997 and 11 -7-1997 during the period referred to in the question.

Maintenance of Elephant Sanctuary at Chandaka

4327. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether adequate steps are not being taken for proper maintenance of the Elephant Sanctuary at Chandaka near Bhubaneshwar;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to protect the villagers living near that Sanctuary, as the elephants go on rampage and kill the people living in those villages?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T. R. BAALU): (a) No. Sir,

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Chandaka sanctuary boundary extends over 173 km., out of which 66 km. was fenced with elephant proof trench and 64 km. with solar power fencing. Due to cyclone the electric fencing became non-effective and the e'ephant proof trench got silted. Steps have been taken by the Government for proper maintenance of Chandaka Sanctuary and for protection of the people living in nearby areas. These include regular monitoring of movement of elephants; enriching the degraded habitat by plantation of suitable species, renovation and laying of new elephant proof trenches with water passage, relocation of hamlets lying in the core area of the sanctuary and training of staff to deal with elephant depredation etc.

Bina Refinery Project

4328. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:
SHRI RAJU

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have pulled up the Gujarat Government for stalling the progress of Bharat Petroleum Corporation of India Ltd., Bina Refinery Project;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) by when Government would give clearance for the refinery crude pipeline that has to eminate from Western off-shore near Jamnagar in Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T. R. BAALU): (a) No Sir.

(b) Do not arise.

(c) The Ministry has received two proposals for seeking foresty clearance under the provisions of Forests (Conservation) Act. 1980 *i.e.* one each for the States of Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh for laying crude oil pipeline in favour of Bharat Oman Refinery Ltd. for Bina Refinery Project.

The proposal for the Madhya Pradesh portion, involving 15.177 hectare of forest land, has been approved in principle on 22-8-2001.

Similarly, the proposal for the Gujarat portion, requiring 30.0318 hectare of forest land, has been approved in principle on 7-12-1999 subject to the condition of approval by the State Government under Wildlife (Protection) Act. 1972. A portion of the pipeline passes through the Marine National Park. In view of the Supreme Court order banning felling/removal of trees from National Park/ sanctuary, a meeting was held with the State Government officials and the project authorities recently and the project authorities have been advised to lay pipeline in the portion forming part of National Park/sanctuary by horizontal drilling at such a depth so that there is no subsidence or vibration on the surface and there is no adverse impact of laying the pipeline on the forest and wildlife inside the sanctuary/National Park.

Both the above-mentioned in-principle approvals arc subject to fulfilment of certain conditions. After receipt of compliance reports on fulfilment of these conditions from the State Governments, formal clearance shall be granted by the Central Government.

Killing of frogs of rare species

† 4329. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a provision for punishment of imprisonment upto one to six years or fine of Rs. 10,000 to the persons killing frogs of some protected species;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.